First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

February 26, 2023
10:00 am
First Sunday of Lent

“Celebrating Maya Angelou”

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

RINGING THE BELL — **MARTY KLEINO**

PRELUDE — *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud — **JOSHUA CATANIA**

"How Firm a Foundation", Traditional

WELCOME — **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS — **PASTOR LIZ**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader is Margaret Harner; Greeters are Patty Sherwod (Roomie) and Dan Kidder-McQuown (Zoomie).
  - Folks participating in worship will be introduced.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"
282 NCH

CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsive — **MARGARET HARNER**

Leader: "Open your eyes to the beauty around you,

People: Open your mind to the wonders of life,

Leader: Open your heart to those who love you,

People: And always be true to yourself."

Maya Angelou

HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional — **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"O God, How We Have Wandered"
202 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING — **Psalm 32:8-11** — **ANNE MARIE NICOLE-TURNER**

SECOND READING **The Human Family** **PASTOR LIZ**
By Maya Angelou

HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Go On Dreaming"
65 ES

MORNING MESSAGE **"Celebrating Maya Angelou"**

Patty Sherwood reading, ***Alone*** by Maya Angelou
Silent Reflection

Ellie Gusman reading, ***Equality*** by Maya Angelou
Silent Reflection

Anne Marie Nicoll-Turner reading, ***A Brave and Startling Truth*** by Maya Angelou
Silent Reflection

Margaret Harner reading, ***When Great Trees Fall*** by Maya Angelou

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording
*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **MARGARET HARNER**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted **MARGARET HARNER**

**"Father, Mother God, thank You for Your presence during the hard and mean days.
For then we have You to lean upon.**

**Thank You for Your presence during the bright and sunny days.
For then we can share that which we have with those who have less.**

**And thank You for Your presence during the Holy Days.
For then we are able to celebrate You and our families and our friends.**

For those who have no voice, we ask You to speak.

**For those who feel unworthy,
we ask You to pour Your love out in waterfalls of tenderness.**

For those who live in pain, we ask You to bathe them in the river of Your healing.

For those who are lonely, we ask You to keep them company.

For those who are depressed, we ask You to shower upon them the light of hope."

**Dear Creator, You, the borderless sea of substance,
we ask You to give to all the world that which we need most --- Peace. Amen.**

Maya Angelou

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING **PATTY SHERWOOD**

"Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer.
And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good." *Maya Angelou*

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Please place in-person offerings in the gold offering plate on the table by the door.

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"This Little Light of Mine",** Traditional **JOSHUA CATANIA**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v,2, 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **PATTY SHERWOOD**

"I've learned that people will forget what you said,
People will forget what you did,
But people will never forget how you made them feel." *Maya Angelou*

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Drops of Water"
60 ES

BENEDICTION *Responsive with microphone muted **ELLIE GUSMAN**

Leader: "Do the best you can until you know better.
Then when you know better, do better."

People: Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you to it."

Leader: My wish for you is that you continue. Continue to be who and how you are, to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness."

People: Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates wills to arrive at its destination full of hope."

Quotes by Maya Angelou

Leader: Go in peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE Please remain seated **JOSHUA CATANIA**

"Savior God Above" By Duke Ellington

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

*Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Vishnu Srinivas, Accompanist

Jenn Zibbell, MID Ministry Intern
Margaret Harner, Worship Leader
Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer
Joshua Catania, Guest Accompanist

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Photograph of Maya Angelou
- **All of the liturgy and prayers are the Words of Maya Angelou**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Pastor Liz, 734-358-6108.

A special thank you to **Rev Jeanette Sherrill**, for once again, sharing her insight, faith and creativity in providing this worship service, **Celebrating Maya Angelou.** Jeanette you are indeed a blessing!!

Worship Next Week: Worship Leader, Donna Eyster; Greeters, Margaret Harner (Roomie) and **Jeanette Sherrill** (Zoomie).

Running from Empty-Lenten Devotionals 2023 by the writers of *Still Speaking Writers Group* are available in either print or digital form. Print copies are on the table at the back of the sanctuary and a digital link is available by contacting Margaret Harner at margaretsharner@gmail.com

A Hybrid (Zoom & In-Person) Celebration of Life for Daniel J. Long will be held on March 11 at 2:00 pm at 111 S. Wallace Blvd, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (former Chapelle Elementary School) and via the church Zoom (Meeting ID 764 328 2234)**.** All are welcome. The complete obituary for Dan can be found at https://www.mitchellfuneral.com/obituaries/daniel-long?rq=long

Church Council will be meeting monthly on the 4th Wednesday at **7:00pm** on Zoom. The next meeting will be **March 28th.** As always, all are invited.

Patrick O'Brien continues to reside at Regency at Canton. He appreciates visits, cards & phone calls. His room is #134 (Bed 2), telephone 734-355-9076: address – 45900 Geddes Rd., Canton, MI 48188

Providing some meals for Chris would be helpful. Pastor Liz set up a ***Take Them a Meal*** opportunity for us to meet this need. The link is https://takethemameal.com/ASQB6340
If you prefer to prepare a meal, please include it on the calendar found in the link so others can plan accordingly**. Marty Kleino**, Congregational Coordinator, is willing to deliver meals. Marty and reached at 734-262-1419 or Mgkleino@gmail.com.

Please continue to keep both Patrick and Chris in prayer.

From the national United Church of Christ-
On the first anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the United Church of Christ calls on our clergy, our lay leaders, our churches, and all people of faith to pray for peace; to pray for an end to the hostilities that are ravaging the people and land of Ukraine, and for a de-escalation of rhetoric that threatens nuclear options. The war has caused the displacement of 16 million people. The UCC has supported people and partners affected by the invasion from the beginning; a UCC delegation recently visited the region to express solidarity with, and encouragement to, partners and to witness the work we have supported.

Creator God, maker of all that is good.
Comforter God, restorer of peace between all peoples.
Redeemer God, healer of wounds that inflict trauma and chaos:
We turn to you this day crying out for an end to a war that rages across the land of Ukraine, threatens the lives of its inhabitants and displaces millions of children no longer able to sleep in their beds, attend their schools, or play with their friends.

May your Spirit of peace soften the hearts of the politicians who rattle their sabers and threaten nuclear annihilation.
May your vision of a just world thwart the ambitions of dictators who are thirsty for conquer and lusting for lands over which to rule.
May your hope of shalom engender within our own hearts the call to let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with us.
Help us find the pathway to peace, a Just Peace, built on human rights and equity not just in Ukraine, but in every land where bombs and guns are the sounds to which children fall asleep and from which families flee.
You are the source of our peace.
You are the horizon of our hope.
You are the author of our love.
May the promise of your enduring peace, your abiding hope, and your everlasting love sustain us all and bring the promise of a new and better day to the people of Ukraine.
Amen

Elected Officers of the United Church of Christ, Rev. John C. Dorhauer General Minister & President, Rev. Traci Blackmon Associate General Minister & Vice President, The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, Associate General Minister & Vice President, and UCC of Conference Ministers

Maya Angelou Newsletter: March 2020 – Author, Guy Johnson and son of Maya Angelou

https://mayaangelou.com/2020/03/04/maya-angelou-newsletter-march-2020/

As I was growing, I really didn't understand who my mother was. It was a different time in the 1950s. Racism and sexism were practiced unapologetically. Rebellion and resistance were not part of the American Psyche. Patriotism and conformance to the law was the mode of the day, even when that law was unjustly applied. My mother was not having any of that; she confronted and challenged the authorities and the police whenever she felt an injustice was being imposed upon her, which for the time was extremely unusual. She was often branded as a troublemaker.

In my family, the older members; my grandparents and great aunts and uncles, who regularly carried guns and often had altercations with the police, thought my mother was strange. They thought she brought unnecessary attention to herself because she fought other people's battles. They didn't understand and neither did I at the time, that my mother's actions were dictated by her principles.

In my adolescence, I actually bought into the belief she was a trouble-maker. My perceptions were based on the fact she got black-balled and fired from jobs for speaking up whenever she saw unfairness and injustice around her. Sometimes it wasn't even for herself, but for other people. I recall her saying to me that "She would not suffer either prejudicial behavior or injustice in her presence without protest." I later grew to understand that her actions were based on her belief that justice was so important that it must be fought for whenever it was encroached upon. She would tell me that the flower of the human spirit had difficulty blossoming without the natural nourishment of justice and dignity. Sometimes when we left the house, she would point out that the quality of justice one wants in their life begins at their own doorstep, meaning whatever they are willing to fight for or what they are willing to ignore.

Frankly, my mother was one of the most daring people I knew. She spouted ideas and concepts that didn't become popular until twenty years later. For example, she called herself a Black person in 1950 when everyone else used the term "Colored" and thought that 'Black' was a derisive and negative term. My mother would wear her hair natural and wear African dress, which embarrassed me and always elicited snide remarks from other "People of Color." She would take me aside and warn me about the insidious qualities of racism and prejudice. She would discuss with me the stereotypical depictions of Black people as well as Africa in the news and the movies, then tell me to always fight against the prison of ignorance.

So, in this time of racial divisiveness and the rise of demagogues, with a President who is willing to start a war to divert attention away from his misconduct; with his biased and impulsive, presidential tweets ricocheting across the social media ether, we must remember all those who gave their sweat and blood to make this country stay true to the tenets of its Constitution. This is a fight that cannot be ignored; there is work to be done and many battles still to be won. So, roll up your sleeves and don't be a prisoner of ignorance. Justice ends or begins at your doorstep.

As a postscript, this year is the fiftieth anniversary of the publishing of "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." This book which addressed the human heart from the perspective of the Black Experience has never been out of print in its five decades of existence and has been translated into numerous languages around the globe. Yet, this amazing book along with her other fantastic literary endeavors are only one element of the phenomenal legacy of her life. Dr. Angelou can still inspire us and touch our hearts with the story of her life.

Hope Clinic Golf Classic: Trinity Health colleagues of Dan Kidder-McQuown from the night shift have organized a golf fund-raiser for Hope Clinic. Located in Ypsilanit and serving the Ypsilanti community.

> **Hope Clinic** provides integrated care for the uninsured, all for free. We believe that being health care providers means more than curing illnesses. True health is physical, mental, *and* spiritual. True health care must address all three, every time. We call this Whole-Person Care, and nobody does it but Hope Clinic, *your haven of help + healing, providing* ***free medical, dental, food, and behavioral health****, caring for the Whole Person in Jesus' Name.*
>
> Hope Clinic Mission Statement

1 s t A N N U A L
Hope Clinic Golf Classic
July10th, 2023
HOPE
CLINIC
Where : FOX HILLS GOLF CENTER
8768 N Territorial Rd, Plymouth, Mi 48170
9:00 am shot gun start w/ Scramble format
$140 per person, $560 (foursome)
Longest drive contest
Closest to the pin contest
50/50 raffle, and raffle for prizes
For any questions email me at: JacyGabriel@gmail.com
Outing Includes:
18holes of golf w/cart, hotdog, pop, and chips at the turn. Also player dinner w/beverages and dessert.
Visit: https://www.eventregisterpro.com/event/hopeclinicclassic for more details and to sign up.
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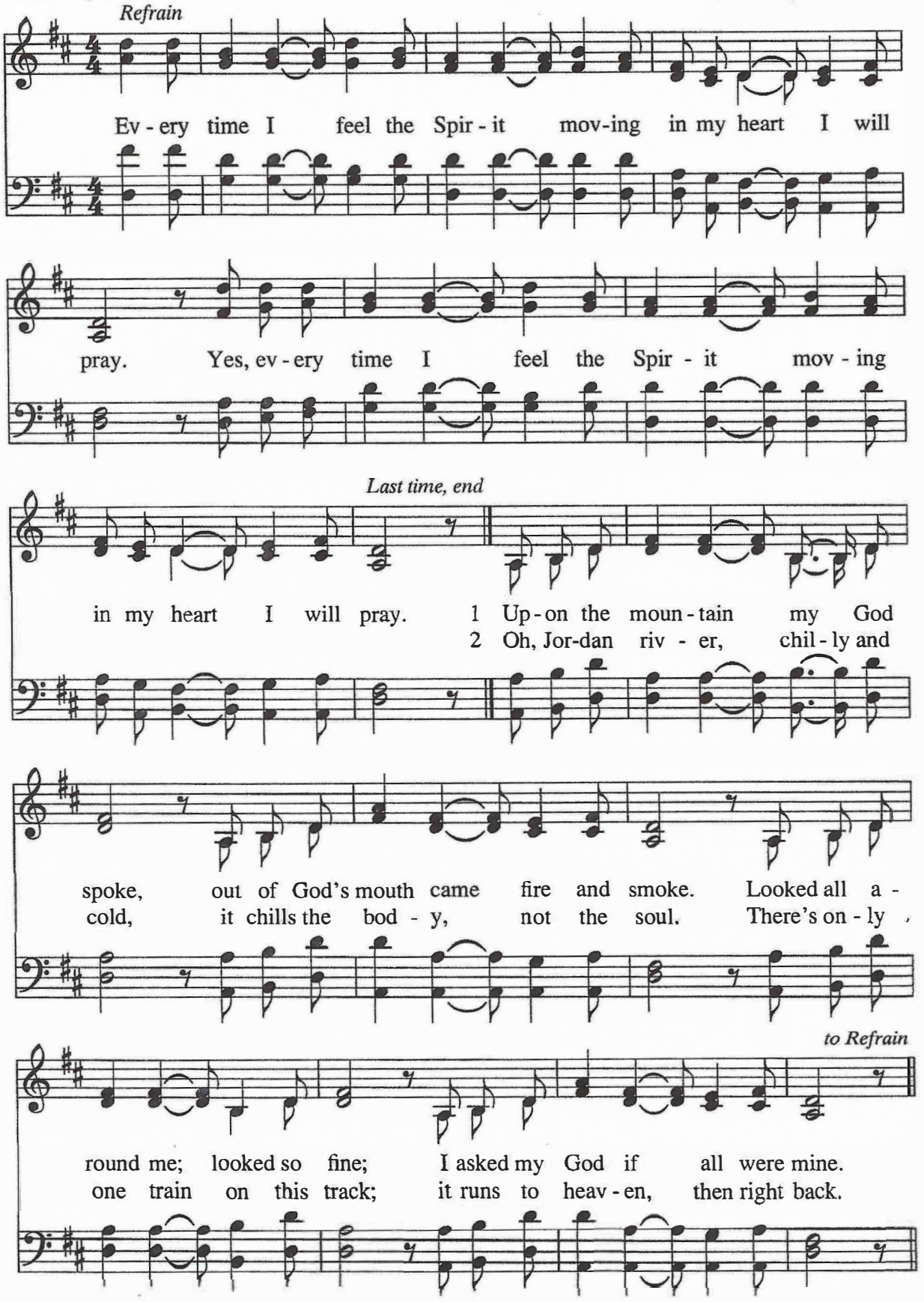
282 Every Time I Feel the Spirit

2 Sam. 22:9; Ps. 18:8

African-American spiritual


Refrain
Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov-ing in my heart I will
pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing
Last time, end
in my heart I will pray. 1 Up - on the moun - tain my God
2 Oh, Jor-dan riv - er, chil - ly and
spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a -
cold, it chills the bod - y, not the soul. There's on - ly
to Refrain
round me; looked so fine; I asked my God if all were mine.
one train on this track; it runs to heav - en, then right back.

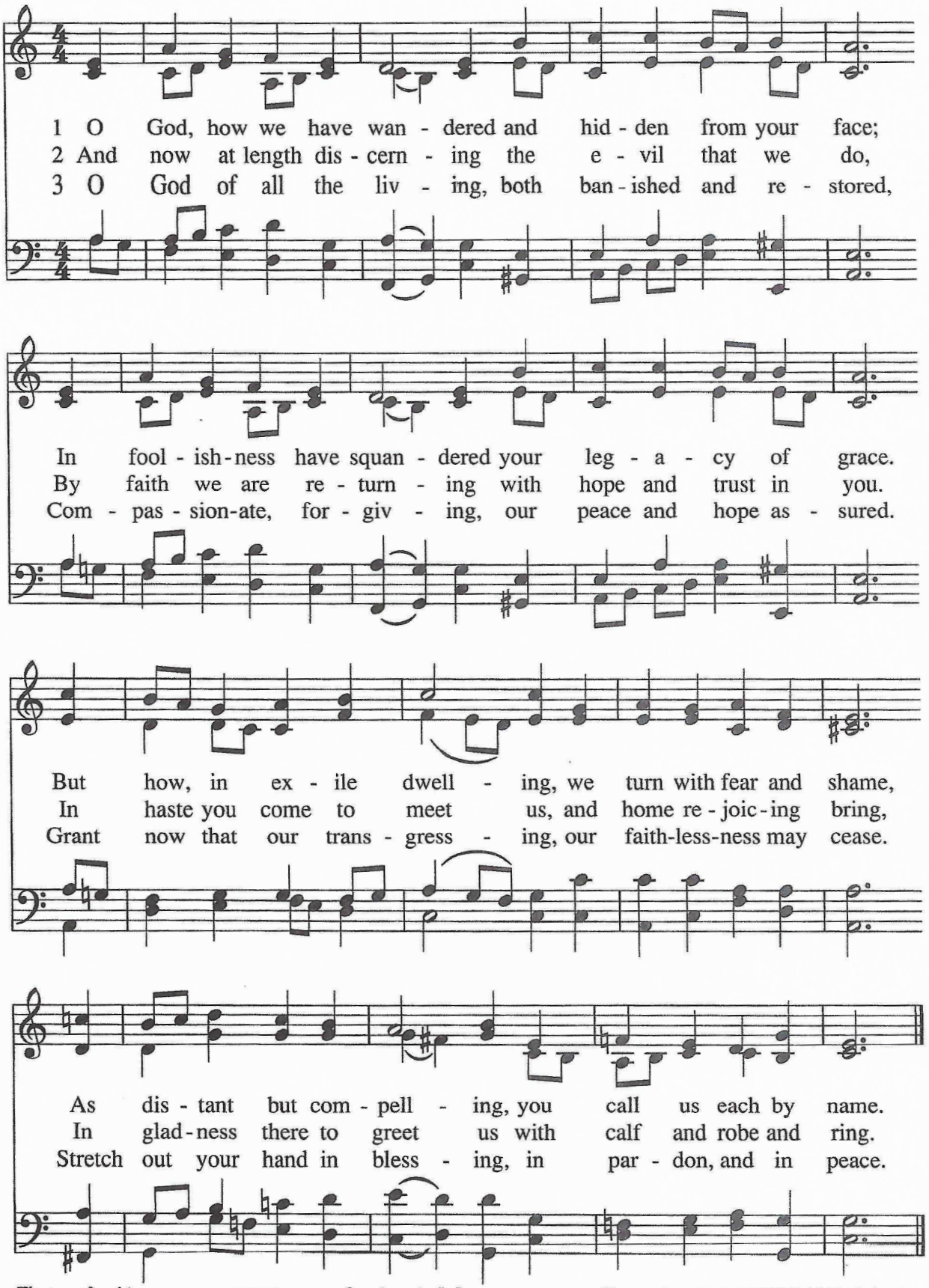
Among the thousands of spirituals that exist today are songs of gladness and songs of sorrow. This well-known spiritual is a song of joy, captured not only in the words, but in the lively rhythms.

Tune: African-American spiritual
Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

O God, How We Have Wandered

202

Kevin Nichols, 1980; alt.

Luke 15:11–32; 2 Cor. 5:16–20

1 O God, how we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
In fool - ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
But how, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we turn with fear and shame,
As dis - tant but com - pell - ing, you call us each by name.
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
By faith we are re - turn - ing with hope and trust in you.
In haste you come to meet us, and home re - joic - ing bring,
In glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
3 O God of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,
Com - pas - sion-ate, for - giv - ing, our peace and hope as - sured.
Grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith-less-ness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

The tune for this contemporary text appears five times in J. S. Bach's St. Matthew Passion, *and first appeared as a hymn setting in the early 1800s. It has an ecumenical history reaching back many centuries. Originally it was a German love song.*

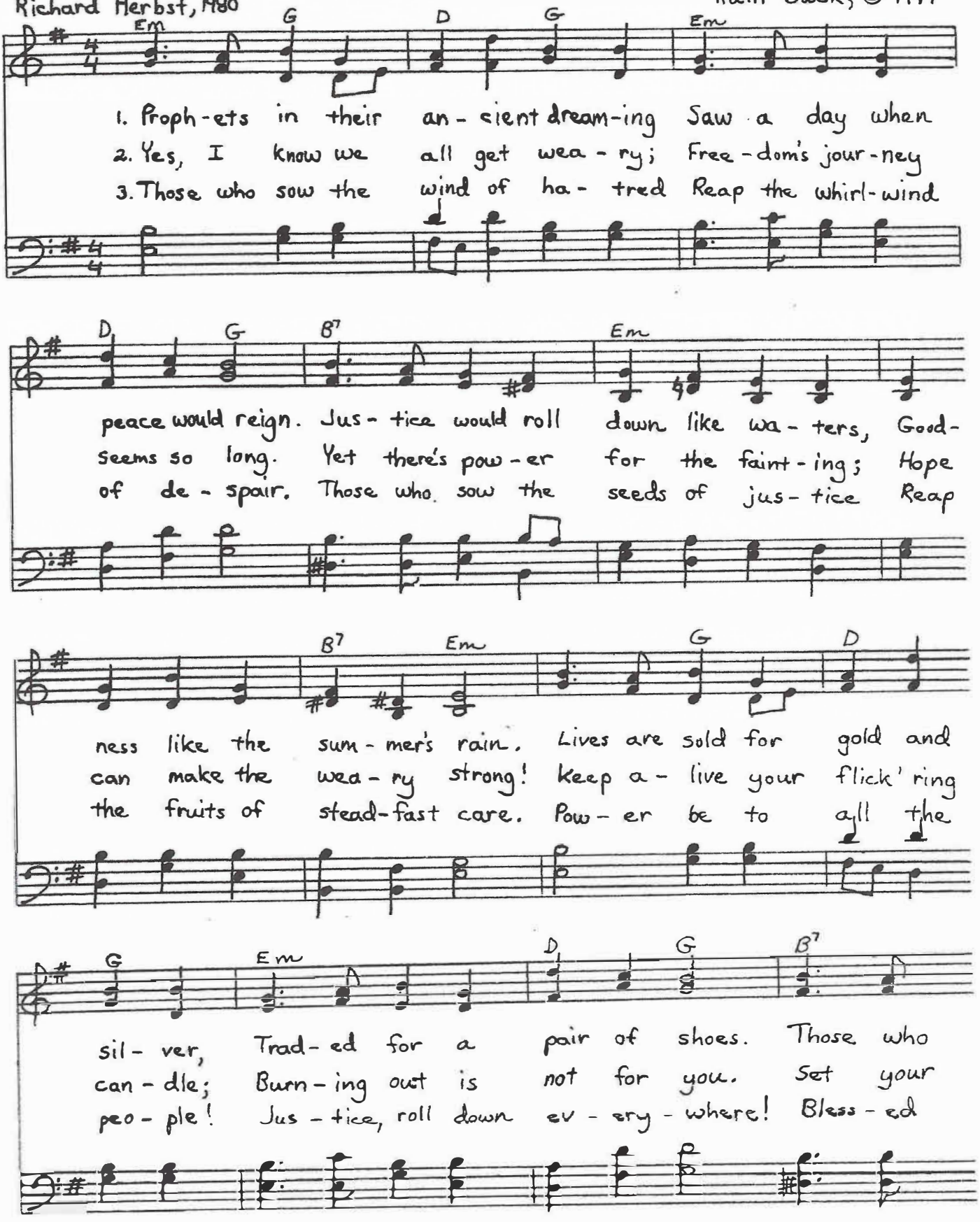
Tune: PASSION CHORALE 7.6.7.6.D.
(HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN)
Melody by Hans Leo Hassler, 1601
Harm. J. S. Bach, 1729
For another harmonization, see 179

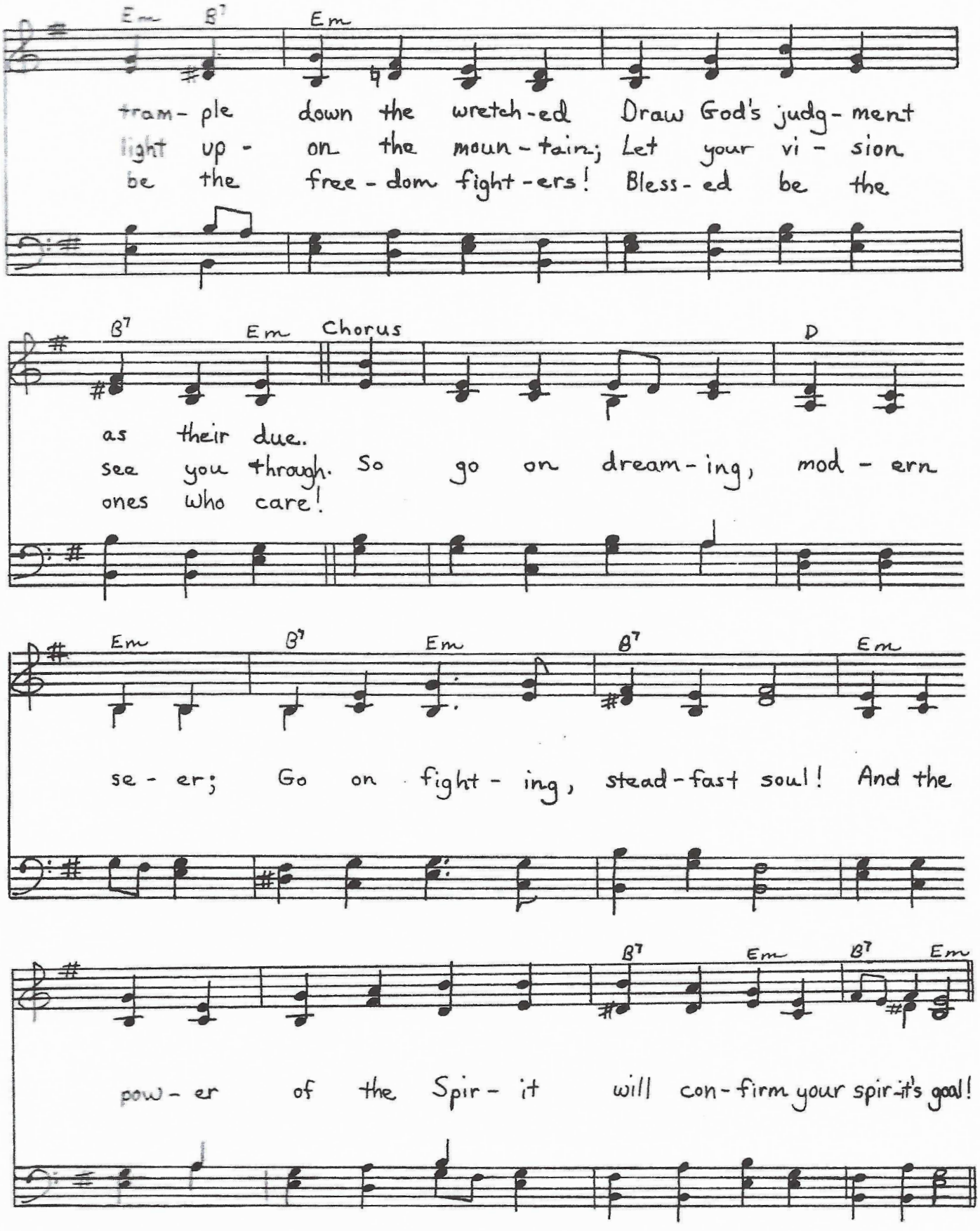
65

Go On Dreaming

Harmonized by
Richard Herbst, 1980

Words and music by
Ruth Duck, © 1977

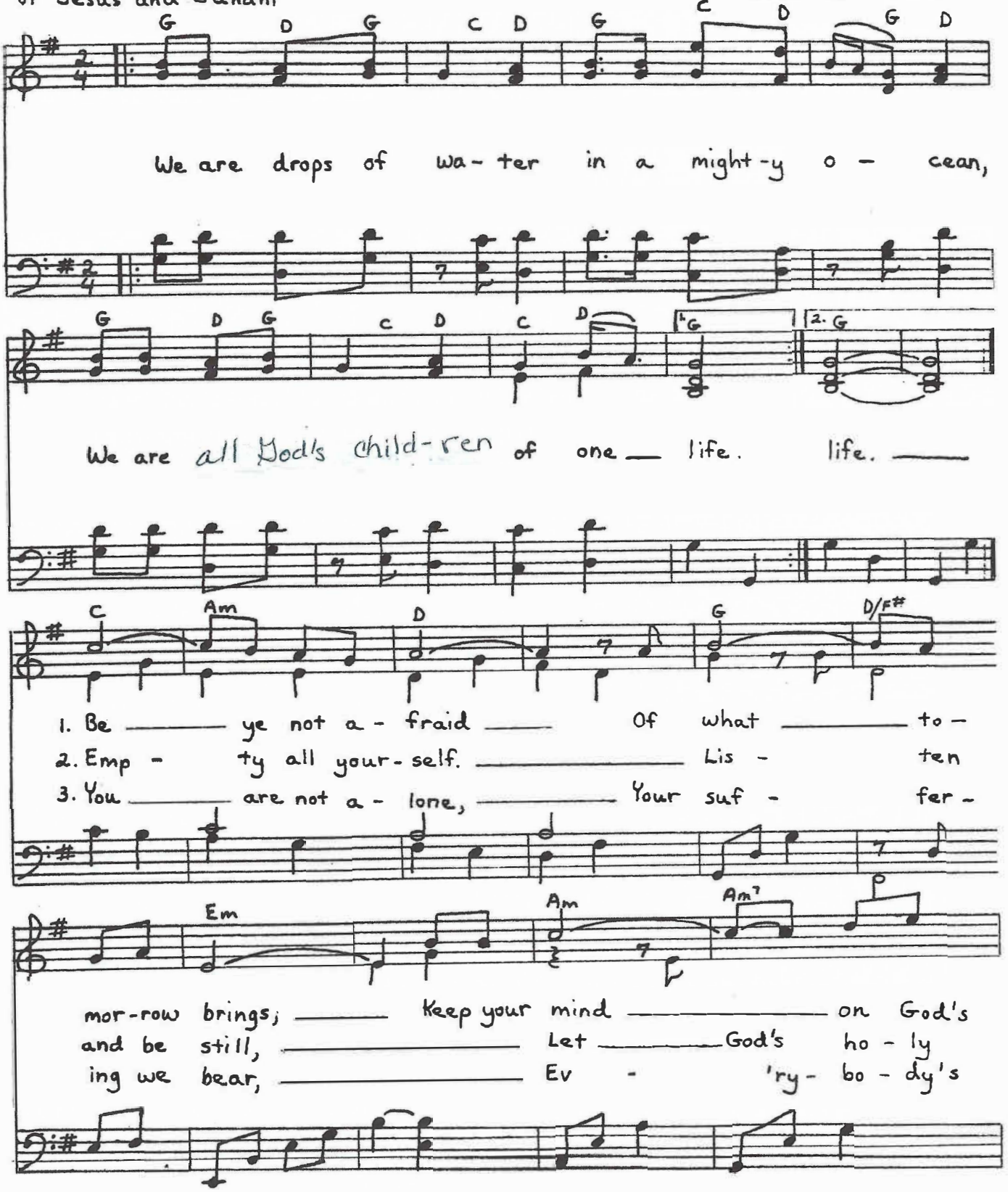

Em G D G Em
1. Proph-ets in their an-cient dream-ing Saw a day when
2. Yes, I know we all get wea-ry; Free-dom's jour-ney
3. Those who sow the wind of ha-tred Reap the whirl-wind
D G B7 Em
peace would reign. Jus-tice would roll down like wa-ters, Good-
seems so long. Yet there's pow-er for the faint-ing; Hope
of de-spair. Those who sow the seeds of jus-tice Reap
B7 Em G D
ness like the sum-mer's rain. Lives are sold for gold and
can make the wea-ry strong! Keep a-live your flick'ring
the fruits of stead-fast care. Pow-er be to all the
G Em D G B7
sil-ver, Trad-ed for a pair of shoes. Those who
can-dle; Burn-ing out is not for you. Set your
peo-ple! Jus-tice, roll down ev-ery-where! Bless-ed

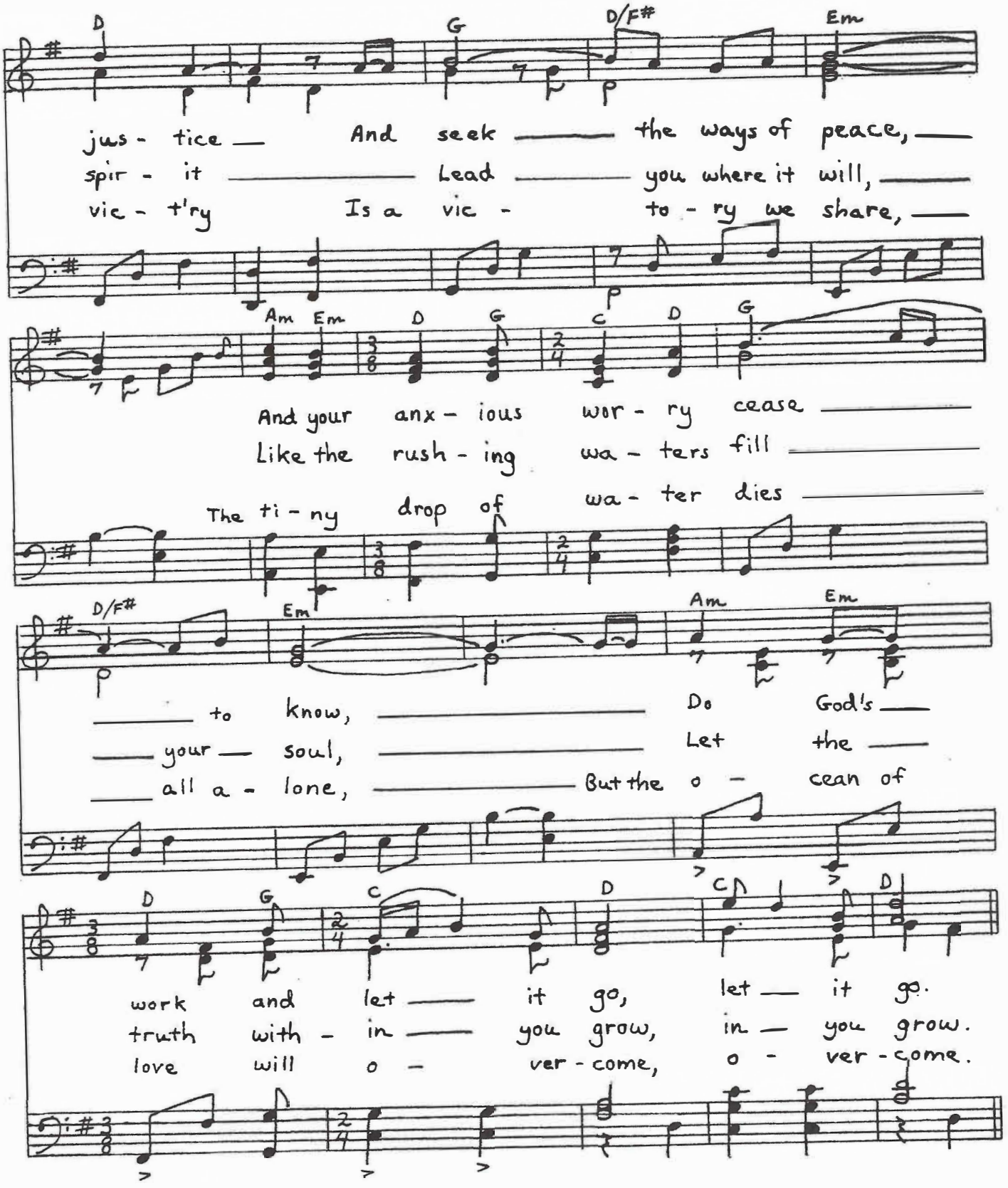

Em B7 Em
tram- ple down the wretch-ed Draw God's judg- ment
light up- on the moun-tain; Let your vi- sion
be the free- dom fight-ers! Bless- ed be the
B7 Em Chorus D
as their due.
see you through. So go on dream-ing, mod- ern
ones who care!
Em B7 Em B7 Em
se- er; Go on fight- ing, stead-fast soul! And the
B7 Em B7 Em
pow- er of the Spir- it will con-firm your spir-it's goal!

Drops of Water

From the teachings of Jesus and Gandhi

Words and music by Jim Strathdee


G D G C D G C D G D
We are drops of wa - ter in a might - y o - cean,
G D G C D C D 1. G 2. G
We are all God's child - ren of one life. life.
C Am D G D/F#
1. Be ye not a - fraid Of what to -
2. Emp - ty all your - self. Lis - ten
3. You are not a - lone, Your suf - fer -
Em Am Am7
mor - row brings; Keep your mind on God's
and be still, Let God's ho - ly
ing we bear, Ev - 'ry - bo - dy's


D G D/F# Em
jus - tice And seek the ways of peace,
spir - it Lead you where it will,
vic - t'ry Is a vic - to - ry we share,
Am Em D G C D G
And your anx - ious wor - ry cease
Like the rush - ing wa - ters fill
The ti - ny drop of wa - ter dies
D/F# Em Am Em
to know, Do God's
your soul, Let the
all a - lone, But the o - cean of
D G C D C D
work and let it go, let it go.
truth with - in you grow, in you grow.
love will o - ver - come, o - ver - come.

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